REMARKS

In the office action of July 21, 2003, the Examiner has initially rejected claims 1, 7-10 and 23 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Laureanti. The Examiner states that per independent claims 1 and 23, Laureanti teaches a device comprising a handheld unit with a processor, and a handset including means for voice input and voice output. The Examiner further states that Laureanti teaches a mechanism for docking the handset with the handheld unit, with the docked unit dimensioned to be held in one hand while being used for voice input and voice output. Further, the Examiner states that Laureanti teaches at least one connection for carrying voice representative signals between the handheld unit and the handset, with reference to Fig. 1 elements 32 and 54 and their corresponding textual descriptions, as well as column 2 lines 50-56.

The elements 32 and 54 taught by Laureanti relate to a data port 32 of a radio telephone 12, and data port 54 of the communication device 14. The so-called communications device 14 is a personal computer (PDA), wherein the invention of Laureanti is directed at providing the ability to dock a portable radio telephone (cell phone) directly to the PDA for transmission of data via the cell phone. As stated in column 1 lines 61-67, Laureanti notes that such devices are conventionally coupled to a portable radio telephone by way of a cable connector or infrared coupler. Laureanti states that a cable connector is utilized to connect a data port of the personal computer to a corresponding data port of the radio telephone. Laureanti goes on to note in column 2 lines 1-7, that such a connection is unwieldy, due to the need to handle the separate devices. Thus, Laureanti is directed at actual docking of the cell phone to the PDA to form a unit which can be held by a single hand. In this manner, data from the PDA can be transmitted to a remote location using the cell phone.

The present invention on the other hand, is directed to a device which is clearly distinct from that taught by Laureanti. In the present invention as now defined in claim 1, there is provided a device having a handheld unit including a voice-driven interface. A handset including voice input and voice output is provided, and is docked with the handheld unit with at least one connection for carrying voice-representative signals between the voice driven interface of the handheld unit and the handset. Such a device is not contemplated by

Laureanti in any manner, as Laureanti merely provides docking between data ports of a PDA and cell phone to allow transmission of data via the cell phone. The cell phone or portable radio telephone described by Laureanti in no way communicates voice-representative signals to a voice driven interface of the PDA, corresponding to the handheld unit of the present invention, as now claimed in claim 1. Nothing with Laureanti would suggest such an embodiment in any way, as voice signals are not communicated between the portable radio telephone 12 and PDA 14. As should be recognized from simply looking at the docked configuration of Laureanti, the cell phone 12 is no longer operational for use as a telephone, but simply provides a wireless link for transmitting data from PDA 14. As shown in Fig. 3, and the corresponding description in column 6, the cell phone 12 is turned upside-down, and inserted into the docking port of PDA 14, such that the cell phone 12 forms a handhold for a user for hand-support of the entire assembly. In this position, Laureanti states that the user is able to actuate keys 42 while grasping the extending portion of the cell phone. Such a configuration simply has no relationship to the configuration of the present invention, wherein the handset allows voice-driven operation of the handheld unit via the voice-driven interface.

Further, those claims dependent upon claim 1 clearly distinguish over Laureanti, defining further aspects of the invention which are neither anticipated nor made obvious by Laureanti, either alone or in combination with other cited prior art. With respect to claims 7-10, claim 7 now recites that the handheld unit further comprises means for communicating with a remote location. In the prior art of Laureanti, the PDA 14 does not include in any manner means for communicating with a remote location. It is for this very purpose that the separate cell phone 12 is utilized, thus clearly indicating that PDA 14 does not have such function. As described in the present invention, the handheld unit may include a wireless communication circuit 21 (Fig. 7) which provides for such communication in an embodiment of the invention. This aspect as well as the further aspects as defined in claims 8-10 clearly distinguish from Laureanti.

With respect to claim 23, the invention as defined therein relates to a handset which is removably attached to a handheld computer, wherein the handset comprises voice input and voice output, a mechanism for docking with the handheld computer and at least one

connection for carrying voice-representative signals between the handset and handheld computer when docked therewith or when detached therefrom. It is unclear how the prior art of Laureanti relates to a handset as defined, as the handset of the present invention can only be correlated to the cell phone 12 as shown by Laureanti. It is clear that the cell phone 12 does not communicate in any way with the PDA 14 when it is not docked therewith, as defined in claim 23. Further, as described with reference to claim 1, nothing within Laureanti relates to providing voice-representative signals between the handset and the handheld computer as defined in claim 23. For at least these reasons, claim 23 is believed to clearly distinguish from Laureanti, either alone or in combination with other cited prior art.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 2 and 24 under 35 USC §103, as being unpatentable over Laureanti. The deficiencies of Laureanti as described above, are maintained, and nothing with Laureanti makes obvious the aspects of the invention as defined in these claims. In claim 2, a connection is defined for carrying voice-representative signals to the voice driven interface of the handheld unit, which clearly distinguishes over Laureanti, and is not rendered obvious thereby. Further, nothing in Laureanti relates to providing voice-representative signals between the handset and handheld computer as defined in claim 23. These claims in conjunction with the independent claims on which they are based are believed to clearly distinguish from Laureanti.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 3-4 and 25-26 under 35 USC §103, as being obvious in view of Laureanti and further in view of PCT International Publication No. WO 85/04301 (Cockburn). As recognized by the Examiner, Laureanti does not teach anything relating to providing a handset which is capable of hands free operation in conjunction with the handheld device as defined in claim 1. The Examiner turns to Cockburn as teaching a flexible loop for carrying a handset around a users ear, concluding that it would have been obvious to provide Cockburn's phone holding means to be incorporated into Laureanti. The conclusion is based upon the position that this would allow a more effective way of using the hybrid cell phone/pda since it would afford a user greater flexibility with hands free operation of the phone, thereby allowing the user to use their hands for operation of the PDA or other equipment concurrently with the phone.

The Examiner's position is respectfully traversed, in that the invention as defined in these claims also clearly distinguishes from the prior art. As previously indicated, claims 1 and 23 each clearly distinguish from the prior art of Laureanti, and the deficiencies thereof are not accounted for by Cockburn. Further, with respect to the aspects of the present invention as defined in these claims, nothing would lead one of ordinary skill to the combination as suggested by the Examiner. As described above, Laureanti teaches the docking of a cell phone to a PDA to allow wireless data transmission. When docked, the cell phone 12 is not operable for a normal telephone use, and clearly one would not employ the telephone aid of Cockburn to hang the docked cell phone 12 and PDA 14 from a users ear. Nothing within Laureanti relates to the ability to provide voice-representative signals between the handset and handheld unit in hands-free operation, and the prior art in no way suggests such a configuration. These claims are also believed to be clearly allowable in conjunction with the independent claim on which they are based.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 5-6 under 35 USC §103, as being unpatentable over Laureanti and further in view of Parulski and "official notice". The Examiner states that Laureanti does not teach the use of a camera within the confines of the cellular telephone, and therefore turns to Parulski, which is stated to teach a cellular telephone having a camera. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to incorporate a camera into the functions of the cellular telephone in Laureanti. This position is traversed, in that the present invention clearly distinguishes from this prior art combination. The handset according to the present invention, including an image scanner, is not commensurate with a cell phone having such a capability. In the present invention as defined in these claims, the handset forms a peripheral device for use with a handheld device having a processor and display. The handset according to the invention may include an image scanner which when combined with the handheld unit, allows for capture and display of images via the handheld unit. A cell phone having a camera is not commensurate with a handset as defined. Further, the deficiencies of Laureanti remain, with the combination as proposed by the Examiner being clearly distinguished by the present invention as defined.

The Examiner also has taken "official notice" with respects to claim 6, basing such position on flip-type phones. Flip-type phones simply include a main telephone body having

a flip top to provide protection for the telephone keys when the phone is not in use. The Examiner's statement that a camera placed on a panel of a flip-type phone would relate to the present invention as defined in claim 6 is clearly inappropriate. Camera phones are known, such as shown by Parulski, and clearly the camera portion of the phone could not be incorporated into the flip top for a variety of reasons. The camera must be connected to the processor of the cell phone and must be supplied power, such that positioning as the Examiner suggests would be unworkable. The present invention as defined in claim 6 clearly defines a handset configuration which is distinct from the proposed configuration as set forth by the Examiner. It is believed that this claim is also in condition for allowance based upon the claims from which it depends.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 11 and 13 as being unpatentable over Laureanti and further in view of Palermo. The Examiner recognizes that Laureanti does not teach the ability of the PDA and telephone to communicate with one another when they are not physically connected. The Examiner then turns to Palermo which is said to teach a base unit which communicates with a portable device such as a telephone. The combination as suggested by the Examiner with respect to these claims is clearly inappropriate, as the prior art of Laureanti clearly teaches away from the combination as proposed by the Examiner. As stated in Laureanti column 1, lines 61-67, coupling of a portable radio telephone to a PDA was performed by cable or infrared coupler, which was stated to be cumbersome and unwieldy. The invention of Laureanti is directed at docking of these two components; to avoid having separate components which must be independently dealt with by the user. The Examiner's suggestion to now eliminate the physical connection between these separate devices clearly teaches away from Laureanti. Further, nothing with the prior art relates to a connection for carrying voice-representative signals between the handheld unit and the handset as defined in claim 11. These claims are therefore believed to clearly distinguish from the proposed combination of prior art as suggested by the Examiner, and are therefore believed to be in allowable condition.

The Examiner has also rejected claim 12 as being unpatentable in view of Laureanti, and further in view of Palermo as well as the additional prior art of Pardo. The aspects of claim 12 as defined in the present invention provide for a combination wherein the handset

power source may be recharged when docked with the handheld unit. The teachings of Pardo, to provide charging of a PDA by a telephone docking station, simply do not relate to the present invention as defined. In claim 12, the handset, having voice input and voice output, and a mechanism for docketing the handset to the handheld unit, does not relate to the telephone docking station as described by Pardo. The teachings of Pardo, wherein a PDA charging cradle can be incorporated into a telephone docking station does not relate to providing a handset and handheld unit combination as defined in this claim. In conjunction with claim 11, it is also believed that this claim clearly distinguishes from the prior art for the reasons stated above.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 14 and 15 as being unpatentable over Laureanti as applied to claim 11 which is presumed to be further in view of Palermo, and yet further in view of Cockburn. For the same reasons as described above with respect to claims 3 and 4, the combination of prior art as suggested by the Examiner simply would not result in the present invention as defined, and one of ordinary skill would not be led to such a combination for any reason. It is believed that these claims are clearly distinguishable from the combined prior art and in allowable condition.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 16-22 as being unpatentable over Laureanti as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Palermo as well Wilska, and further in view of "official notice". The prior art of Laureanti is deficient for a number of reasons as previously described with reference to other independent claims. Claim 16 also clearly distinguishes therefrom for similar reasons, as well as at least the following additional reasons. In claim 16, an embodiment of the invention, such as described with reference to Fig. 8, provides that the handheld unit includes a slot for accepting a card-shaped peripheral which communicates with remote locations. In this defined embodiment, the handheld unit is provided with the ability to communicate with remote locations by means of a card-shaped peripheral as defined, thereby allowing the handset to be combined with the handheld unit in a manner that voice-representative signals are provided between the handheld unit and the headset. As further recited in claim 16, the card-shaped peripheral carries at least one of the connection for carrying voice-representative signals and the mechanism for docking the handset to the handheld unit. These aspects of the present invention as defined in this claim are neither

taught nor made obvious by the prior art in any way. As recognized by the Examiner, nothing within the prior art relates to a card shaped peripheral as defined in claim 16. The Examiner turns to the prior art of Wilska as teaching the use of a card-shaped peripheral that includes the functions for a camera. It is unclear how Wilska relates to the provisional of a card-shaped peripheral which communicates with remote locations as defined in claim 16. Further, nothing within the prior art would suggest providing a card-shaped peripheral as defined in claim 16, which caries at least one of the connection for carrying voice-representative signals, and a mechanism for docking the handset to the handheld unit. The prior art of Wilska does not relate to such features in any way, and nothing within the prior art would suggest or make obvious such features. Claim 21, with the further provision that the card-shaped peripheral includes an image scanner, further distinguishes from the prior art in combination with the distinctions noted above. With reference to claim 17, nothing within the prior art relates to providing voice-representative signals as defined in claim 17. With respect to claims 18-20, nothing within the prior art relates to providing a device as defined in claim 16, with the further provision that the card-shaped peripheral communicates with a remote location by at least one of wireless or wired communication. The prior art simply does not relate to these features of the invention, and Laureanti's teaching of a cellular telephone simply does not relate to a card-shaped peripheral in combination with a hand-held unit as defined in the present invention. With respect to claim 22, the official notice taken by the Examiner is believed to be inappropriate for similar reasons as described with reference to claim 6, previously set forth. It is therefore believed that claims 16 thru 22 clearly distinguish from the prior art and are in allowable condition.

Various other clarifying amendments have been made which are not dependent upon issues of patentability, but are merely corrected informalities. It is therefore believed that the claims are now presented clearly distinguish from the prior art, and are in allowable condition and favorable action hereon is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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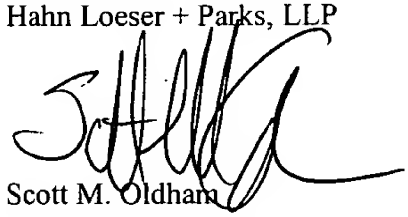

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Attorney Docket No.: **7210.24**